

# Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality

## Fact Sheet

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Tentative Decision to issue a Remedial Action Decision Document (RADD)

Facility Name: Cedar Chemical Corporation  
Owner/Operator: N/A  
Facility Location: Helena-West Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas  
EPA I. D. Number: ARD99660649

### FACILITY DESCRIPTION:

The Facility is located just to the south of the city of Helena-West Helena, in Phillips County, Arkansas. The Facility consists of approximately 48 acres located within the Helena-West Helena Industrial Park, approximately 1.25 miles southwest of the intersection of U.S. Highway 49 and State Highway 242. The Facility is bordered by farmland, State Highway 242, the Union-Pacific Railway, and industrial park properties. Of the 48 acres, approximately 40 acres comprise the abandoned manufacturing fenced area of the Facility. The current wastewater treatment ponds are located on an additional 8 acres of the property.

The plant was constructed and initially operated by Helena Chemical in 1970. The plant was eventually purchased by Ansul for dinoseb production beginning in 1972. In 1986, the plant was sold to Cedar Chemical Corporation (Cedar Chemical). On March 8, 2002, Cedar Chemical filed for bankruptcy. Manufacturing and plant operations were shut down shortly thereafter. Currently, the facility remains abandoned while security guards provide 24 hour maintenance within the fenced area.

During its operational life, the Facility manufactured various agricultural chemicals, including insecticides, herbicides, polymers, and organic intermediates. Plant processes were batch operations, with seasonal production fluctuations and the frequent introduction of new products

ADEQ assumed control of the site on October 12, 2002. As documented in the Comprehensive Assessment Report prepared by ADEQ dated April 2004, the existing environmental issues associated with the site included abandoned chemicals, buried drums, groundwater contamination, surface and subsurface soil contamination, and an abandoned stormwater treatment system.

## REMEDIAL ACTION TRUST FUND ACT (RATFA) CORRECTIVE ACTION:

On March 22, 2007, the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) issued Consent Administrative Order (CAO) LIS 07-027 regarding environmental conditions at the Facility to Ansul, Inc., formerly known as Wormald US, Inc., Helena Chemical Company (Helena), and ExxonMobil Chemical Company (ExxonMobil), a division of Exxon Mobil Corporation, pursuant to the authority of the Arkansas Remedial Action Trust Fund Act ("RATFA"). The stated objective of the CAO is to "address environmental concerns at the Facility to ensure protection of human health and the environment." The CAO requires these companies to perform various tasks with respect to environmental conditions at the Facility.

Pursuant to Paragraph V. 20 of the CAO, Helena and ExxonMobil, acting jointly, entered into a Separate Agreement with ADEQ on March 25, 2008. Wormald U.S., Inc., currently known as Ansul, Incorporated subsequently entered into a separate agreement with ADEQ on January 9, 2009.

VARIANCES AND WAIVERS: No variances or waivers were requested.

DRAFT REMEDIAL ACTION DECISION DOCUMENT: ADEQ has developed for public notice a Draft Remedial Action Decision Document (RADD) which details the corrective action decision for all applicable Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs) and Areas of Concern (AOCs) at the facility. The Draft RADD satisfies all requirements for completing the corrective action process.

DATE: The public notice will be published in the Helena Daily World and the Arkansas Democrat Gazette on January ??, 2010. The end of the public comment period will be on February ??, 2010.

COMMENT PERIOD: All persons, including the Applicant, who wish to comment on the Draft RADD are allowed to raise all ascertainable issues and submit in writing all available arguments and factual ground supporting their positions by 4:30 p.m. on ??, March ??, 2009 at the address below:

Clyde Rhodes, P.E.  
Chief, Hazardous Waste Division  
Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality  
5301 Northshore Drive  
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317  
Telephone: (501) 682-0916 Fax: (501) 682-0565

The administrative record is available for review by the public at the ADEQ Records Management Section, 5301 Northshore Drive, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317 and at the Lewis Library, Post Office Box 785 – Campus Drive, Helena, Arkansas 72342-0785.